



The Wildcat Monthly



December 2016

This publication highlights the monthly activities and events that take place on campus and across the state.



Just a reminder – there will be no school from December 19 – January 2

DECEMBER, 2016

2/3	Fri/Sat	Varsity Wrestling Meet: Nashville, TN
9/10	Fri/Sat	Low Vision Clinic, Paducah
14	Wednesday	Varsity Wrestling and Cheerleading Meet: Columbus, OH
16	Friday	Christmas Music Program, 10:30 AM
19- Jan2		No School for KSB (Winter Break)

JANUARY, 2017

3	Tuesday	Classes Resume at KSB
10	Tuesday	2 nd Quarter Grading Period Ends
16	Monday	No School for KSB (MLK Jr. Holiday) Travel Day: (Students return at 4 PM)
18	Wednesday	Varsity Wrestling and Cheerleading Meet: Indianapolis, IN
20/21	Fri/Sat	Low Vision Clinic, KSB
27/28	Fri/Sat	Varsity Wrestling and Cheerleading NCASB Conference Championships: Louisville

ATHLETICS

Goalball

March 8, 2017 Annual Little NC's Goalball Championships, Louisville, KY

Wrestling & Cheerleading

December 2-3, 2016 Tennessee Invitational, Nashville, TN

December 14, 2016 Ohio Invitational Day Meet, Columbus, OH

January 18, 2017 Indiana Invitational Day Meet, Indianapolis, IN
January 27-28, 2017, Annual NCASB Conference Championships, Louisville, KY
March 8, 2017 Annual Little NC's Wrestling and Cheerleading Championships, Louisville, KY

Swimming & Forensics

March 8, 2017 Annual Little NC's Swimming Championships, Louisville, KY
March 15, 2017 Ohio Swim Clinic/Invitational, Columbus, OH
April 12, 2017 Indiana Invitational Day Meet, Indianapolis, IN
April 28-29, 2017 Annual NCASB Conference Championships, Columbus, OH

BOYSCOUTS



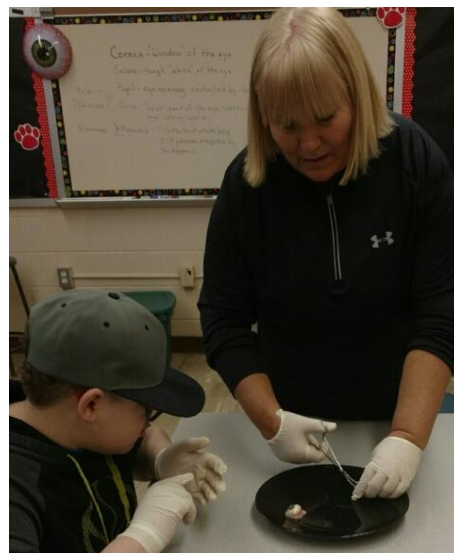
Scouts and students participated in ceremony to honor veterans on Veterans Day. Photos are shown of scouts lowering and folding the flag.

LOW VISION CLINIC

Connie Hill, CLVT



Some of the vision classes have started learning more about the eye anatomy. The students are dissecting pig eyes. The pig's eye is very similar to a child's eye in size and shape. The students identify the cornea, pupil, optic nerve, aqueous humor, and lens.





Mickie, Gracie, Brock and London are shown holding/dissecting a pig's eye with supervision from Ms. Connie.

Transition dorm students are working on independent living skills. They are trying new recipes, using appliances and cooking utensils. There are several students who are applying for the Independent dorm for the spring semester.



Heather is shown making fruit kabobs, Justin using a hand mixer preparing Nutella brownies and Daniel making red velvet cupcakes.



The October and November Low Vision clinics were a success! A total of seventeen students participated were seen.

The next clinic will be December 9 -10 in Paducah.

Billy is shown with trial frame glasses and Brock is shown following Dr. Mejia's directions.



CONGRATULATIONS

Nancy Barbati, School Office Administrative Assistant (center) retired in November after 15 years of service. Congratulations on your retirement!



JUMP ROPE FOR THE HEART CELEBRATION

The student who raised the most money was Luke Hagan! Thank you to Mr. Sochia for being such a great sport going into the pool of freezing cold slime!!!



FAMILY CONFERENCE 2016

Family Conference was held November 3-4. KSB partnered with VIPS (Visually Impaired Preschool Services) to provide a day of camp for students, respite for kids with multiple disabilities and activities and sessions for parents. Dinner was served Friday evening and Commissioner Steven Pruitt was the guest speaker.



Commissioner Pruitt pictured with some KSB staff.

Camp included a visit from the Louisville Zoo and Kentucky Science Center in addition to crafts and activities. Pizza and the chocolate fountain were the highlight of the day.

Parents were able to experience their child's visual impairment through the use of simulators. Other sessions offered information on eye conditions, independent living and orientation and mobility.

Many hands came together to make this weekend a success!



Mikah is pictured making a mask and three students with painted faces pose for the camera



Students are shown playing with scented playdoh, hunting Easter eggs, dressing up for the photo booth, playing with blocks, listening to music and a story, and getting their faces painted



Students are shown petting a turtle, hedgehog, chinchilla and bearded dragon and smelling a ferret.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

Tabathia Roark, Arts and Humanities Teacher

Liz Richter, fall artist in residence from Kentucky Museum of Arts and Crafts and high school students are making animal sculptures. Paper towels wrapped with masking tape make up the body, neck, head, and legs and then plastic strips are applied. The last step will be to apply paint and other embellishments.

Dalati is shown adding strips to his horse.



HIGHLIGHTS

KENTUCKY EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (KEDC)

By: Pamela Howard, Outreach Consultant



Josh Rister, age 15, was awarded First Place in the American Printing House for the Blind I Insights Art Competition. He has dealt with a deteriorating visual condition since birth.

His piece is called "Bravery" which exemplifies his life. His TVI, Traci Evans, is a great inspiration to her students and holds each one to high accountability. Josh says he is certainly inspired by her and has plans for many art projects in the future!

EnVISIONing the Future Day is a structured day set aside that empowers and brings students with blindness/visual impairments, their families, teachers, and service providers together to gain new learning experience, network, and learn from each other. It is an opportunity to teach high expectations and positive attitudes and language of visual impairments to others. It is a day for students to practice social, self-advocacy, and independent living skills that lead ultimately lead to increased self-awareness and self-confidence.

A student is shown sifting flour



The theme for this year's 17th annual event was entitled, "Heritage Days – Back to the Basics." Most often our students have no idea where some of the food staples of life that we use every day comes from. Most would say that milk, bread, sugar, etc. comes from a grocery store. The lack of incidental learning and exposure many times leads students to skewed ideas and concepts. The idea that says, "the inside of an apple must be red because the outside of the apple is read" leads us to believe that unless a person is instructed otherwise then they spend their whole life with a misguided concept. We need to provide explicit instruction to help those who cannot see clearly to understand concepts and ideas not seen or experienced. This day provided students with a better understanding of many concepts. They learned to milk a cow, harvest honey, make yogurt, butter, ice cream, honey, and biscuits. They explored bluegrass music/dance, different types of chickens/eggs, and interacted with students with the same type visual impairments. An awesome learning experience took place at KEDC last month! A big thanks to all our community partners who made this day spectacular for our students!



Students are shown playing a banjo, milking a cow, sifting flour and holding a chicken.



"You Don't Have to See to Believe" CALEBS Organization entered a float into the Ashland Christmas Parade. Co-sponsored by KSB Outreach & KEDC. Twenty-four students participated by either showing off their cane skills by walking the parade route, passing out candy to the crowds, or by waving to onlookers from the float. Fifty-four total participants to include families and community partners. Great experience for our students and families and public awareness! Thank you CALEBS!

Students, teachers and families are shown riding a parade float decorated to look like Christmas morning.



WESTERN KY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE

By Robbin Cox, Outreach Consultant

KY Office for the Blind (OFB) and KSB Outreach joined together to offer a student event on mobility. Their iTeam event gathered students on Sat, Oct 22 at the McCracken County Public Library. Each one had the opportunity to receive guide dog training and training with a GPS device. John Dettloff of Leader Dogs gave instruction on walking with a guide dog and then let the students walk with the dog. Brian Goemmer of Lab Computers, Inc. had GPS tracking devices for students to try. Students were seen traveling on the downtown streets of Paducah. O&M Specialist Katrina Berry, Trisha Conklin, and Terri George assisted the instructors and students. Robbin Cox, KSB Outreach, and Jean Anne Sutton, OFB, also assisted in the event.



Brian Goemmer is shown speaking to students; John Dettloff is speaking to a student.

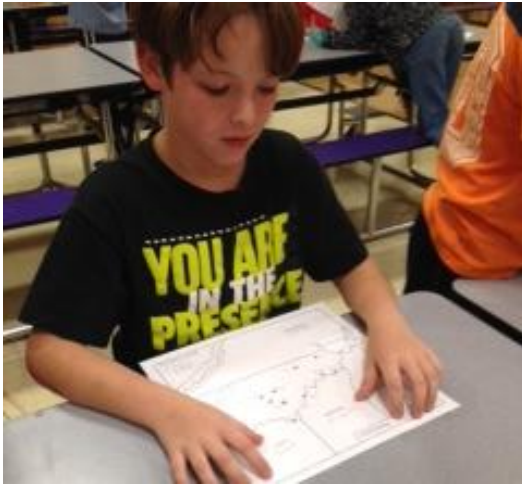
Gerald Abner, UK instructor, presented the training, FVLMA (Functional Vision and Learning Media Assessment) for Students with Additional Complex Needs, to special education staff in Western KY. The training was held Oct 29 at the WKEC Conference Center in Eddyville. Twenty TVIs, special education teachers, and related service providers attended and learned ways to appropriately assess each area of the FVLMA and to develop interventions.



Gerald Abner is shown presenting to a group.

Second grade students at Hendron Lone Oak Elementary School in Paducah were presented a program on Helen Keller as well as facts about individuals who are blind or visually impaired by Robbin Cox, Outreach Consultant. After a short presentation, the students rotated among stations where they experienced Braille materials, magnifiers, monoculars, tactile graphics, and simulators for visual conditions. The students had recently read a story about Helen Keller and invited Mrs. Cox to share more information.





Student discovering Braille, Student wearing a simulator attempts to write her name, students discovering a tactile map of KY, students using a dome magnifier to look at a brochure.

CENTRAL KY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE (CKEC)

By: Nancy Nichols, Outreach Consultant

Family Event at Boyd's Orchard in Versailles on October 25. Six districts were represented with 54 total participants, 28 were students.



Families pose in front of a big red barn.

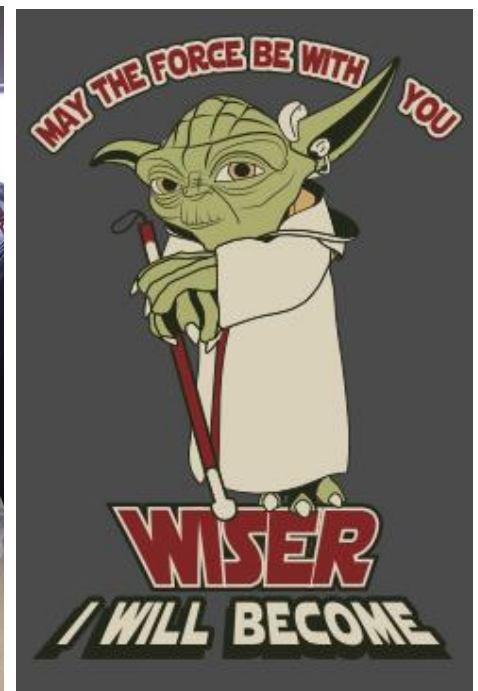
Family Event on September 14 at The Living Arts and Science Center in Lexington. 28 participants, two districts.



Students are shown touching art on walls and dressing in space suits

KENTUCKY VALLEY EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE

By Verna Howell, Outreach Consultant



Teachers and volunteers are shown dressed as characters from Star Wars / The logo of Yoda with a white cane and message: May the Force Be With You – Wiser I Will Become.

On Oct 21, 114 students, family members, and staff from the KVEC area attended the sixth annual Fall Gathering in Hazard. Students from Breathitt, Floyd, Jenkins Independent, Knott, Letcher, Perry, Pike and Pikeville Independent participated in the Star War themed event titled, "May the Force be with You...Wiser I Will Become!" Students were able to attend a session on making good choices: *Truth and Consequences*. They were taught about emergency services and what happens when calling 9-1-1. They also had an opportunity to speak with a Kentucky State Police trooper about bullying. The officer gave them tips on how to deal with bullies.



A volunteer is shown assisting students with lightsabers.

Katrina Slone, S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Leader, assisted students in making light sabers, a galaxy in a jar and their own motorized Landspeeder (LandRovers).

In addition to student stations, parents attended sessions on helping their children become more independent. This session included presentations from Connie Hill, CLVT, Mitch Dahmke, Family Resource Specialist, Rick Ricks, KSB Charitable Foundation, Kentucky School for the Deaf, Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs, and Voc-Rehab.



Volunteers dressed as Star Wars characters are shown leading sessions.

LOUISVILLE STORY PROJECT

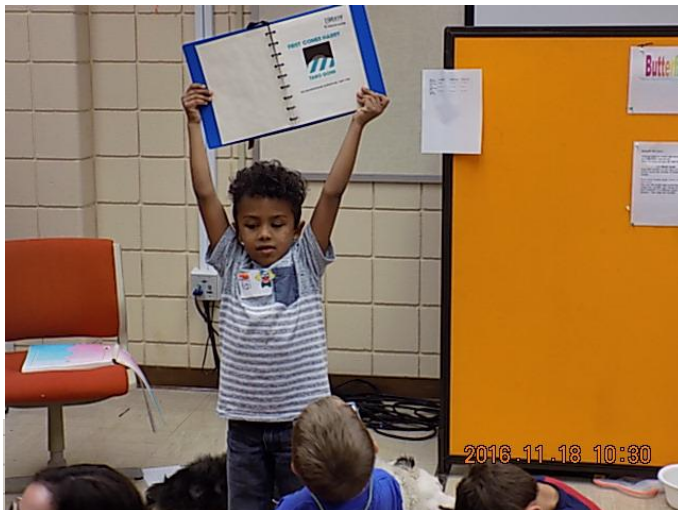
The book signing for “We Can Hear You Just Fine” was held on Nov. 10 at the Clifton Center.



BRAILLE CARNIVAL

Each fall, KSB hosts an incredible carnival event celebrating literacy for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. This year's was on November 18.

The Braille and Low Vision Carnival is a day to celebrate literacy. Students travel from one classroom to another to practice their reading skills as they play carnival games. Each game is designed to meet the needs of a variety of reading levels for both Braille and print readers. For print readers the games allow them to practice using their magnification devices and for Braille readers the games allow them to practice using their tactual skills. For dual readers they are free to practice both sets of skills. As they move from room to room they receive prizes. In addition, students play a "Musical Chairs" game to earn a snack, can have their face painted, create a craft, and have story time. Every student receives a Braille or print book.



Kentucky School for the Blind
1867 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206

Phone: 502-897-1583
Fax ~ Business Office: 502-897-2994
Fax ~ Classroom Office: 502-897-2850
Fax ~ KIMRC: 502-897-8737
www.ksb.kyschools.us

We're on Facebook! We would love for you to like our page!
<https://www.facebook.com/KYschoolfortheblind>





KSB Mission Statement:

"The mission of the Kentucky School for the Blind is to provide comprehensive educational services to all Kentucky students who are blind and visually impaired, birth to 21."

KSB Vision Statement:

"Empowering Students who are Blind and Visually Impaired to Command their Future"

KSB Beliefs

We believe students who are blind and visually impaired...

- ... can become college and career ready through world class instruction and services
- ... have unique needs that must be met
- ... have a right to knowledge, tools and relationships necessary to build successful lives
- ... deserve to be taught in a safe and caring environment by competent professionals
- ... are meaningful contributors to society